



Office of Congressman Jeff Flake

News Release

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Congressman Flake Decries Increase in Government Spending

Fiscal Year 2003 Discretionary Spending Up By 12.5%

Mesa, Arizona - Arizona Congressman Jeff Flake, who represents the state's Sixth District, today hoped that new numbers showing a 12.5 percent rise in federal discretionary spending for fiscal year 2003 would serve as a wake up call to his Republican colleagues in Congress.

"The Republican Party has been the party of fiscal restraint and responsibility since the free-spending days of the New Deal," said Flake. **"However, if present spending habits persist, we're going to have a hard time convincing voters that we can be trusted with the federal purse strings."**

"When Republicans were able to articulate their message of less government, lower taxes, and fiscal responsibility in 1994, voters rewarded them with control of both the House and the Senate. The message clearly resonated with Americans-and still does. If Republicans continue to turn their backs on that message, we risk the voters turning us out of power."

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